

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of preventing a first partition of a partitionable computer system
5 from transmitting a packet to a second partition of the partitionable computer system
comprising:
receiving the packet from the first partition by a routing device, the packet
comprising a source address and a destination address;
reading the destination address of the packet;
10 determining if the packet is allowed to be received by the destination address;
and
prohibiting transmission of the packet to the destination address when the
destination address is not allowed to receive the packet.
- 15 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the determining comprises comparing the
destination address to a set of addresses in a routing table.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the determining comprises indexing a bit
mask.
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4. The method of claim 1 wherein the prohibiting comprises dropping the packet.
5. The method of claim 4 further comprising transmitting a notification to the
source address that the packet was dropped.
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6. The method of claim 4 further comprising generating a time out by the source
address when a response to the packet is not received within a specified time period.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the routing device is a crossbar.
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8. A system for preventing a first partition of a partitionable computer system
from transmitting a packet to a second partition of the partitionable computer system
comprising:
a processor of the first partition configured to assemble the packet, the packet
35 comprising a source address and a destination address;

- a transmitter in communication with the processor, the transmitter configured to transmit the packet; and
- a routing device that receives the packet comprising a port and a firewall in communication with the port.

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9. The system of claim 8 wherein the routing device is a crossbar.

10. The system of claim 8 wherein the firewall comprises a routing table of allowed destination addresses.

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11. The system of claim 8 wherein the firewall comprises a bit mask.

12. The system of claim 8 wherein the routing device is configured to drop the packet when the firewall determines the destination address is not allowed to receive the packet.

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13. The system of claim 12 wherein the routing device further comprises a transmitter configured to send an error message to the source address of the packet when the packet is dropped.

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14. The system of claim 12 wherein the transmitting device is further configured to generate a time out signal for the source address when a response to the packet is not received within a specified time period.

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15. A routing device in communication with a first partition of a partitionable computer system configured to prevent the transmission of a packet between the first partition and a second partition comprising:

a port in communication with the first partition configured to receive the packet, the packet having a source address and a destination address; and

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a firewall associated with the port.

16. The routing device of claim 15 wherein the firewall comprises a routing table of allowed destination addresses.

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17. The routing device of claim 15 wherein the firewall comprises a bit mask.

18. The routing device of claim 15 wherein the firewall is configured to drop the packet when the firewall determines the destination address is not allowed to receive the packet.

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19. The routing device of claim 18 wherein the routing device further comprises a transmitter configured to send an error message to the source address of the packet when the packet is dropped.